

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A stent, comprising:
a member including
a first portion; and
a second portion disposed outwardly of the first portion, the second portion being more radiopaque than the first portion and having
a first layer including a radiopaque material, and
a second layer defining an outer surface of the member and including the radiopaque material and a second material.
2. The stent of claim 1, wherein the second layer comprises an alloy of the radiopaque material and the second material.
3. The stent of claim 1, wherein the radiopaque material is capable of attenuating an incident X-ray beam by more than about 70%.
4. The stent of claim 1, wherein the radiopaque material is selected from the group consisting of gold, platinum, palladium, and tantalum.
5. The stent of claim 1, wherein the second material is selected from the group consisting of titanium, chromium, palladium, niobium, and silicon.
6. The stent of claim 1, wherein the first portion comprises a material selected from the group consisting of stainless steel and nickel-titanium alloy.
7. The stent of claim 1, wherein the first portion is the innermost portion of the member.
8. The stent of claim 1, wherein the first portion contacts the second portion.

9. The stent of claim 1, further comprising a third portion between the first portion and the second portion.
10. The stent of claim 1, further comprising a polymeric layer on the member.
11. The stent of claim 1, further comprising a drug-releasing layer on the member.
12. A stent, comprising:
 - a member including
 - a first portion having
 - a first layer including a radiopaque material, and
 - a second layer defining an outer surface of the member and including the radiopaque material and a second material.
13. A stent, comprising:
 - a member having
 - a first portion; and
 - a second portion disposed outwardly of the first portion, the second portion being more radiopaque than the first layer and including
 - a first layer comprising a radiopaque material, and
 - a second layer comprising the radiopaque material and defining an outer surface of the member, the second layer having a lower oxidation potential than an oxidation potential of the first layer.
14. The stent of claim 13, wherein the radiopaque material is capable of attenuating an incident X-ray beam by more than about 70%.
15. The stent of claim 13, wherein the radiopaque material is selected from the group consisting of gold, platinum, palladium, and tantalum.

16. The stent of claim 13, wherein the second layer comprises an alloy of the radiopaque material and a second material.
17. The stent of claim 13, wherein the second material is selected from the group consisting of titanium, niobium, palladium, chromium, and silicon.
18. The stent of claim 13, wherein the first portion comprises a material selected from the group consisting of stainless steel and a nickel-titanium alloy.
19. The stent of claim 13, wherein the first portion is the innermost portion of the member.
20. The stent of claim 13, wherein the first portion contacts the second portion.
21. The stent of claim 13, wherein the first and second portions have different compositions.
22. The stent of claim 13, further comprising a polymeric layer on the member.
23. The stent of claim 13, further comprising a drug-releasing layer on the member.
24. A stent, comprising:
 - a member having a first portion including
 - a first layer comprising a radiopaque material, and
 - a second layer comprising the radiopaque material and defining an outer surface of the member, the second layer having a lower oxidation potential than an oxidation potential of the first layer.
25. A stent, comprising:
 - a member including a first portion having a concentration gradient of a radiopaque material, the first portion defining an outer surface of the member.

26. The stent of claim 25, wherein the concentration of the radiopaque material increases as a function of distance from the outer surface.

27. The stent of claim 25, wherein the concentration gradient varies substantially linearly along a thickness of the first portion.

28. The stent of claim 25, wherein the radiopaque material is capable of attenuating an incident X-ray beam by more than about 70%.

29. The stent of claim 25, wherein the radiopaque material is selected from a group consisting of gold, platinum, palladium, and tantalum.

30. The stent of claim 25, wherein the first portion is formed of an alloy comprising the radiopaque material and a second material.

31. The stent of claim 25, wherein the member further includes a second portion disposed inwardly of the first portion, the second portion being more radiolucent than the first portion.

32. A method of making a stent including a member, the method comprising:
forming an outer layer on the member, the outer layer comprising a radiopaque material and a second material; and
oxidizing a portion of the outer layer.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein oxidizing the portion comprises forming an oxide from the outer layer.

34. The method of claim 32, wherein oxidizing the portion comprises forming a nitride from the outer layer.

35. The method of claim 32, further comprising forming a radiopaque layer comprising the radiopaque material.
36. The method of claim 32, wherein the outer layer is formed with a compositional gradient.
37. The method of claim 32, wherein the outer layer is formed by a process selected from the group consisting of physical vapor deposition, chemical vapor deposition, and electrodeposition.
38. The method of claim 32, wherein oxidizing the portion of the outer layer is performed by electropolishing.
39. The method of claim 32, wherein oxidizing the portion of the outer layer is performed by heating the outer layer in an oxidizing environment.
40. The method of claim 32, wherein oxidizing the portion of the outer layer is performed by ion implanting oxygen in the outer layer and heating the outer layer.
41. The method of claim 32, further comprising forming a polymeric layer on the outer layer.
42. The method of claim 32, further comprising forming a drug-releasing layer on the outer layer.